



East Timbalier Island Restoration Project

May, 1999

East Timbalier Island, Phase I and II Lafourche Parish, IA Timbalier Basin

PROJECT LOCATION: These projects, sponsored by the National Marine Fisheries Service, are located in Lafourche Parish and would restore part of a barrier island chain that separates Terrebonne/ Timbalier Bay from the Gulf of Mexico. Approximately 400 acres of the island are vegetated; the remainder is composed of tidal flats and shallow,

submerged aquatic habitat.

PROJECT PURPOSE: East Timbalier Island is eroding at an extremely rapid rate. The project objectives are to increase the size of the island and increase the island's life expectancy beyond the present estimate of 11 years. The two phases will add about 190 acres to the size of the island.

PROJECT FEATURES: Both phases will dredge sand from submerged areas near the island for creating dune and intertidal wetland habitats on the cen-



tral, presently submerged portion of the island. Rock will be added to an existing breakwater to protect the created areas from wave-induced erosion.

Construction on the project started April 12, 1999. The construction contract was awarded to Weeks Marine, Inc. The large hydraulic dredge (The <u>Beachbuilder</u>) will arrive on site in July.